

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of claims:

Claims 1-20 (canceled).

Claim 21 (new): An input device, comprising:

a flexible carrier;

at least one cap connected to said flexible carrier, wherein an input signal is generated by pressing the at least one cap;

at least one fixing means, arranged between a first plane that includes the at least one cap, and a second plane of the flexible carrier connected to the cap, wherein the at least one cap, and the flexible carrier, is configured in such a way that force can be transmitted in a substantially punctual manner through a plane that includes the fixing means and wherein the fixing means, in one area of at least one terminal edge, is configured in such a way that it can secure the input device in or on a housing.

Claim 22 (new): An input device according to Claim 21, wherein the fixing means comprises a metal sheet.

Claim 23 (new): An input device according to claim 21, wherein the fixing means is configured as a lattice with recesses, through which the at least one cap can move in a direction of actuation.

Claim 24 (new): An input device according to claim 21, wherein the at least one cap has, perpendicular to a direction of actuation in at least one spatial direction, a dimension that is greater than an opening in the fixing means.

Claim 25 (new): An input device according to claim 21, wherein the cap is configured on an operable exterior or user interface to project over the respective recess and to protrude through the recesses.

Claim 26 (new): An input device according to claim 21, wherein the cap has, at least in one sectional plane parallel to the direction of actuation, an approximately mushroom-like cross-sectional form.

Claim 27 (new): An input device according to claim 23, further comprising at least one projection on the flexible carrier, wherein said at least one projection are configured to protrudes through the recesses in the stable fixing means and is covered by a respective at least one cap fixed on the projection.

Claim 28 (new): An input device according to claim 21 wherein at least one terminal edge of the fixing means is configured as a type of overlapping periphery and/or flange for securing the input device in or on a housing.

Claim 29 (new): An input device according to claim 21, wherein two respectively opposing terminal edges of the fixing means are configured as a type of overlapping periphery and/or flange.

Claim 30 (new): An input device according to claim 21, wherein fixing means is inserted loosely into the respective housing, especially where the span widths or opening widths of a housing aperture or of a keyboard opening are small.

Claim 31 (new): An input device according to claim 21, wherein the fixing means is connected to the housing rigidly and/or in one piece, whereby the fixing means is preferably configured as a punched and bent sheet-metal part.

Claim 32 (new): An input device according to claim 21, wherein the fixing means and an associated housing part are configured from one material and are manufactured in one piece in an essentially joint production step.

Claim 33 (new): An input device according to claim 21, wherein the fixing means forms a three-dimensional keypad surface or user interface.

Claim 34 (new): An input device according to claim 21, wherein the fixing means is configured as an ESD protection.

Claim 35 (new): Input device according to claim 21, wherein the input device is a mobile telephone or other transmit and/or receive unit for the transmission and/or representation of data in the form of text and/or image data with or without sound, which data is encoded as elements of a set of data to be transmitted in conformance with the same or different standards.

Claim 36 (new): A method for the production of an input device, comprising:

producing a flexible carrier with at least one cap for configuring at least one key, wherein

the flexible carrier comprises at least one projection that is partially guided through a recess of a fixing means, and a cap as the result of a thermoplastic shaping and/or reshaping process;

molding the cap on the flexible carrier after the fixing means and the flexible carrier have been assembled.

Claim 37 (new): The method according to claim 36, wherein the cap is produced as a single part from a translucent material and is connected to the flexible carrier.

Claim 38 (new): The method according to claim 36, further comprising fixing the at least one cap to and/or on a projection of the flexible carrier.

Claim 39 New): The method according to claim 38, wherein the step of fixing the at least one cap includes one of bonding, welding and form-locking, with or without thermal treatment.